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which led up to our war with that country have been variously pictured as a phase of our internal struggle with slavery and as an example of wanton aggression by a stronger upon a weaker power. Mr. Rives' two well written volumes treat the period leading up to the conflict and the struggle itself from a new viewpoint. His attitude is more impartial than that of those who lived through the troublous times of which they wrote and whose views were warped by their political beliefs or blurred by their nearness to the events. The author has a great advantage too, in that he writes at a time when the diplomatic archives of the countries chiefly interested, the United States, Mexico, Great Britain, and Texas, for the period have been thrown open to free examination.

It is a satisfaction to citizens of the United States to find in the new point of view thus made possible much material that contradicts the early indictments made against our national policies and those who took an active part in their framing. Instead of assuming the attitude of an aggressor the United States is shown to have exercised singular forbearance and self-control. The "watchful waiting" policy in relation to Mexican disturbances is by no means a new feature of our diplomacy. There was no American conspiracy involved in the annexation of Texas and in the Mexican war. The attitude of President Polk is shown to have been far from that generally attributed to him, and the policy of Great Britain is strongly contrasted with what the pro-slavery faction believed it to be. On the other hand the author does not overlook our mistakes, although he shows they were due oftener to ignorance and inability to understand a people of highly contrasted ideals and habits of life than to bad intent. Then as now the people of the United States looked upon Mexico as a country inhabited by a European race, to be judged by the standards of Europe and of English America. In fact, Mexico has always been a country of predominantly aboriginal stock whom the European immigrants have conquered but never expelled.

In order to put our relations with our southern neighbor in their proper setting the author allows himself frequently to digress into discussions of our domestic affairs and includes a rather disproportionate treatment of the Oregon controversy. The reader of the second volume cannot but feel that though intent to write a military history of the Mexican war is disclaimed, the attractions of the study of the campaign have been too great for the author to resist their description.

CHESTER LLOYD JONES.

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THORNTON, W. W. *The Sherman Anti-Trust Act.* Pp. lxiii, 929. Price, \$7.50. Cincinnati: W. H. Anderson Company, 1913.

The consideration now given by Congress to amendments to the anti-trust law gives timeliness to Mr. Thornton's *Treatise on the Sherman Anti-Trust Act*. The work is a comprehensive and well-arranged textbook that must prove useful to practitioners and other students of law.

The volume starts with a good brief history of the enactment of the law. The authorship of the bill in its final form is, however, credited to Senator Hoar on the authority of Senator Hoar's "Autobiography;" but the evidence that

Senator Edmunds wrote most of the bill is conclusive. Mr. Thornton was misled as other writers have been.

Successive chapters of the volume discuss restraints of trade and trusts at common law, what constitutes commerce, and what is embraced in the business of interstate and foreign commerce. These chapters are followed by a consideration of the constitutionality and the construction of the act of July 2, 1890. The provisions of the law are then analyzed. The major part of the book is devoted to a discussion of the application of the law to contracts in restraint of trade, to monopolies, to conspiracy, to control of prices or production, to agreements to eliminate competition, and to agreements affecting interstate commerce. The relation of the law to carriers, to patents, to the patent medicine business, to copyrights and to labor combinations is considered. The later chapters of the book deal with questions concerning procedure under the act—suits in equity, indictments, action for damages, evidence, etc.

The appendices contain the text of the Sherman Act, sections 73 to 77 of the Wilson Tariff Act, and the Senate Report (No. 1326, 62d Congress, 3d Session) on "The Control of Corporations, Persons, and Firms Engaged in Interstate Commerce." There is a good topical index.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

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VEILLER, LAWRENCE. *A Model Housing Law*. Pp. viii, 343. Price, \$2.00. New York: Survey Associates, Inc., 1914.

This volume shows marked growth in the author's conception of the scope of housing legislation since his first book on tenement law was published. Its plan is comprehensive, though technical, and will interest those engaged in drafting housing legislation. Especially helpful are the numerous explanatory notes and diagrams. Some sections of the proposed law are new though most of them are on the statute books of the larger cities. The author warns those who contemplate using the book not to attempt to improve it for, he declares, "every word, every comma has been weighed and has its exact and definite meaning."

Contrary to this advice very careful consideration should be given to all its provisions. Especially is this true of the definitions where the phraseology may differ from that established by custom and court decision in the city for which the law is being framed. Moreover some definitions read in conjunction with suggested sections practically nullify the latter. This is true with the definition of the family which nullifies the section governing the taking of lodgers. So also the definition of a rear yard makes sections 22 and 28 contradictory. An unforeseen omission is the failure to establish as strict requirements for privacy in connection with the location of water-closet compartments in tenements as in dwellings. Section 34 requires in every new dwelling one entrance "to at least one water-closet compartment shall be had without passing through a bedroom," but dwellings are of various kinds and include tenement and boarding houses. The author nowhere makes a similar requirement for each apartment within a tenement. It would seem that the reasons justifying such a standard for a single dwelling would hold equally true for an apart-